DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA STATEHOOD CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

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Saturday, March 13, 1982

Washington, D.C.

The plenary session was convened at 12:40 p.m., on the ninth floor of the University of the District of Columbia, 10th and E Streets, N.W., Washington, D.C., Mr. Charles I Cassell, Chairman, presiding.

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PROCEEDINGS

THE CHAIRMAN: Will the Convention come to order?

Okay, we will have a moment of silent prayer, as indicated on the agenda.

(Pause for silent prayer.)

THE CHAIRMAN: Okay, and now the roll call.

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Baldwin.

(No response.)

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Barnes.

DELEGATE BARNES: Here.

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Blount.

DELEGATE BLOUNT: Present.

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Bruning.

DELEGATE BRUNING: Here.

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Cassell.

DELEGATE CASSELL: Here.

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Clark.

(No response.)

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Coates.

(No response.)

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Cooper.

Here. Delegate Corn.

DELEGATE CORN: Present.

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Croft.

DELEGATE CROFT: Here.

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Eichhorn.

(No response.)

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Feely.

(No response.)

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Freeman.

(No response.)

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Garner.

DELEGATE GARNER: Here.

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Graham.

DELEGATE GRAHAM: Here.

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Harris.

(No response.)

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Holmes.

(No response.)

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Jackson.

(No response.)

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Johnson.

DELEGATE JOHNSON: Present.

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Jones.

DELEGATE JONES: Here.

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Jordan.

DELEGATE JORDAN: Present.

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Kameny.

(No response.)

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Lockridge.

(No response.)

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Long.

(No response.)

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Love.

(No response.)

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Maguire.

(No response.)

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Marcus.

DELEGATE MARCUS: Good afternoon.

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Charles Mason.

DELEGATE CHARLES MASON: Here.

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Hilda Mason.

DELEGATE HILDA MASON: Here.

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Brian Moore.

DELEGATE BRIAN MOORE: Here.

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Jerry Moore.

(No response.)

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Talmadge Moore.

DELEGATE TALMADGE MOORE: Here.

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Nahikian.

(No response.)

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Nixon.

DELEGATE NIXON: Here.

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Oulahan.

(No response.)

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Paramore.

DELEGATE PARAMORE: Here.

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Robinson.

(No response.)

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Rothschild.

(No response.)

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Schrag.

DELEGATE SCHRAG: Here.

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Shelton.

(No response.)

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Simmons.

DELEGATE SIMMONS: Present.

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Street.

DELEGATE STREET: Present.

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Terrell.

DELEGATE TERRELL: Here.

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Thomas.

DELEGATE THOMAS: Here.

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Warren.

(No response.)

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Baldwin.

(No response.)

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Clark.

(No response.)

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Coates.

(No response.)

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Eichhorn.

(No response.)

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Feely.

DELEGATE FEELY: Present.

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Harris.

(No response.)

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Holmes.

(No response.)

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Jackson.

(No response.)

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Kameny.

(No response.)

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Lockridge.

(No response.)

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Long.

(No response.)

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Love.

(No response.)

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Maguire.

(No response.)

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Jerry Moore.

(No response.)

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Nahikian.

(No response.)

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Oulahan.

DELEGATE OULAHAN: Here.

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Robinson.

(No response.)

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Rothschild.

(No response.)

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Shelton.

(No response.)

DELEGATE COOPER: Delegate Warren.

(No response.)

THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. There are 27 people present today. We will ask now for the approval of the minutes, assuming you had a chance to read them.

DELEGATE FEELY: I so move, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Could I get a second on the approval of the minutes?

DELEGATE SIMMONS: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved and seconded that the minutes be approved as amended. Are there any corrections? Delegate Simmons.

DELEGATE SIMMONS: I guess that my question is the motion 7.0.0 says adequate notice be given of all briefings, meetings, hearings, et cetera, does not embrace the sense of my motion. You know, that would be a gratuitous kind of motion indeed. The purpose of my motion was to -- and I think somehow it has got to be conveyed in a language that what I was simply talking about was that additional effort to see that people are informed of when we have outstanding expert witnesses and testimony of people at roundtable and even in a regular meeting of any committee and I think the meetings and hearings are pretty much scheduled in advance so there will be adequate notice, but I am not feeling comfortable when I made a motion last week that there will be sufficient communication of the extra kinds of good solid information, whether you are on a committee or not, that you might want to have as part of your own integrated background to function more effectively as a delegate. So that's what I was trying to say, and I don't know. I called upon the Secretary to make a recommendation and that I do not find this sufficient to express what indeed was the intent of the motion. And I will accept that modification.

THE CHAIRMAN: If that was the intent of your motion, then certainly I see no problem with expressing that intent. Mr. Secretary.

DELEGATE COOPER: My recommendation would be, of course, you know, knowing that speeches and monologues go into the minutes -- my recommendation would be to make that intent crystal clear so that the official record of the Convention, which is the transcript, does reflect that.

DELEGATE SIMMONS: I'm sure the transcript does reflect that, but I think that motions and actions -- because this clearly sounds gratuitous. I mean anyone who reads this will say, well, why would you need a motion for that. That is so obvious.

THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. I guess we will need to make sure that the Executive Secretary gets notice of all outstanding events, guests and hearings and so forth and that she knows that a copy of that at least is going into everybody's boxes and also posted on the bulletin board.

Okay. Any other corrections?

Brian Moore, Talmadge Moore, and Gloria Corn.

DELEGATE BRIAN MOORE: Pass.

THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Talmadge Moore.

DELEGATE TALMADGE MOORE: Mr. President, I'm a little concerned at this stage as to whether our committee was designed to contact the public and the media as to whethe the D.C. public schools --

THE CHAIRMAN: We're correcting the minutes right now.

DELEGATE TALMADGE MOORE: Okay.

Ms. Corn.

DELEGATE CORN: Yes, number five, motion by Delegate Corn: "to direct the Executive Secretary to have her staff call Senators or Congressman".

Okay. Second correction on 7.0.1, that idea that there be a weekly calendar. It was clear at that time that that was out of order because it was considered part of the original motion.

THE CHAIRMAN: Which one are you referring to now?

DELEGATE CORN: 7.0.1, amendment by Delegate Corn that a weekly calendar be posted. It died because it was stated by the President that that was clear at the time that way part of the original motion.

THE CHAIRMAN: So what is your correction?

DELEGATE CORN: That it's not reflected in the original motion.

DELEGATE COOPER: It wasn't part of the original motion. You offered an amendment, did you not?

DELEGATE CORN: And it was said that I didn't need that amendment because it was part of the original motion.

THE CHAIRMAN: All right, Delegate Simmons.

DELEGATE SIMMONS: I was just going to say precisely why that wasn't needed. We were making it very clear what Delegate Corn was saying only further emphasizes the point I was making initially. But that is indeed a ridiculous, a gratuitous thing. Of course, there is a weekly posting of what's going on. So what I was talking about was clearly and distinctly different than that and that was why hers died because that is understood. There is a distinction between the two.

THE CHAIRMAN: What we are doing is correcting the minutes to make sure that they say exactly what did happen.

DELEGATE CORN: They were not corrected.

DELEGATE COOPER: Did you not offer that amendment?

DELEGATE CORN: I offered that amendment;however, it died because it was noted by the President -- just the moment, I have the floor. It was noted by the President that that was part of the original motion. It was clearly understood that that was the original motion. That is not indicated here.

DELEGATE COOPER: It died in recess.

DELEGATE CORN: Because it was indicated that that was part of the original motion.

THE CHAIRMAN: I will have to rule that this accurately reflects the action. Correct?

DELEGATE COOPER: Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any other corrections to the minutes? Delegate Marcus.

DELEGATE MARCUS: I'm referring to --

THE CHAIRMAN: Hold it a minute. Is there a point of order?

DELEGATE TALMADGE MOORE: Yes, a point of order. We are simply having too much discussion on the minutes, 7.0.0 and 7.0.1. I have the impression that we write out these things and give them to the Secretary. We write out these motions. I was wondering why there is so much confusion when we write them out and give them to the Secretary?

THE CHAIRMAN: It might be that we can develop a better procedure. We have already started with this procedure now. So --

DELEGATE MARCUS: I'm referring to 3.0.0 of the minutes. Can the minutes please reflect the additions that Mr. Baldwin included in his motion to adopt the calendar of the day?

THE CHAIRMAN: And what would they be?

DELEGATE MARCUS: I believe that was to include on the calendar of the day was the approval of the agenda.

Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Delegate Marcus.

DELEGATE MARCUS: Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any further corrections to the minutes?

(No response.)

THE CHAIRMAN: If not, is there a motion to -- in fact, there is a motion on the floor.

All in favor of adopting the minutes as amended, signify by saying aye.

(A chorus of "ayes".)

THE CHAIRMAN: Those opposed.

(No response.)

THE CHAIRMAN: Abstain.

(No response.)

THE CHAIRMAN: The minutes are adopted.

DELEGATE SIMMONS: Mr. President.

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, Delegate Simmons.

DELEGATE SIMMONS: I move that we approve the order of business for the day as presented.

DELEGATE PARAMORE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved and seconded that the order of business as indicated be accepted for the day. Are you ready for the vote?

All in favor?

(A chorus of "ayes".)

THE CHAIRMAN: Those opposed.

(No response.)

THE CHAIRMAN: Abstain.

(No response.)

THE CHAIRMAN: That is the agenda for the day.

Next is the President's report and the first item on that is the Executive Secretary's progress report. Will somebody see if we can get the Executive Secretary please?

Excuse me for passing over the announcements. I have one announcement. If there are any others, we will take those also.

This announcement is of an Advisory Neighborhood meeting; Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2-C will meet at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March the 16th, 1982 in the Council Chamber Room, that's Room 500, District Building at 14th and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.

Delegate Blount, did you have any announcements?

DELEGATE BLOUNT: No. I was just reminding you --

THE CHAIRMAN: Okay, the order of the agenda, right.

DELEGATE BLOUNT: Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: We are now waiting for the Executive Secretary.

DELEGATE BLOUNT: Mr. Chairman, while we are waiting, I would announce to the delegates that you can get the minutes of the Judiciary Committee's meetings at the front if you so desire.

THE CHAIRMAN: All right. Miss Ellington. Excuse me just a minute.

DELEGATE PARAMORE: Just a point of information; I just wanted to mention the order. I guess it might be a point of information.

THE CHAIRMAN: Well, he was giving a belated announcement, I suppose.

DELEGATE PARAMORE: Okay. This is related to the minutes.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have something related to the minutes?

DELEGATE PARAMORE: Yes. I have a question. Is it proper --

THE CHAIRMAN: They really have been passed and adopted now. Do you want to make suggestions?

DELEGATE PARAMORE: But this is really wrong here.

THE CHAIRMAN: Okay.

DELEGATE PARAMORE: Because it should be for a person that's a woman that the chair should be the chairperson or chairwoman, and it is incorrect chairman. And that's incorrect.

THE CHAIRMAN: Where is that?

DELEGATE PARAMORE: Now that's definitely incorrect.

THE CHAIRMAN: I think we can take care of that. The Secretary says he agrees with that point, right?

DELEGATE COOPER: Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Miss Ellington.

MISS ELLINGTON: I have only been here for a week, but I see some familiar faces. So I will address the President and the Convention at large.

During the first week of my tenure, I've spent most of my time essentially becoming acquainted with the commission and the goals and learning what has happened to ascertain the functions on an operational need of the Convention, according to the record. Towards that end we began by allocating and organizing the space that has already been approved by the University and moving to acquire additional space to meet the current needs. We were able to receive approval for an additional very large room, a smaller room and some additional space through the efforts of one of the delegates for committee and staff use.

The necessary arrangements for heat, electricity and telephones have been completed. And you will be interested to know that our telephone services are now in the process of being installed and the telephone service should be fully operational not later than Wednesday, hopefully before then, but they say that the wire that's coming from the street is supposed to be done by tomorrow.

The Executive Committee has hired a research coordinator and nine research assistants to date with a new hire pending. The Committee is now acting on a public information application. The selection is expected to be completed by Tuesday, March 16th. We have four persons out stationed through the Mayor's office: two are for a 90-day period and two are for the duration. Despite the rotation requirement, we expect to have a full contention of five typists no later than Tuesday, March 16th. The services of a court reporter for our plenary sessions have also been arranged through the Mayor's office. An inventory of all items on hand has been completed. Our projected needs will then be listed, reviewed with the Treasurer, the President and the Executive Committee and appropriate action taken to meet those additional needs which shall include but not be limited to tape recorders, tapes and other working materials for each delegate, each committee and so forth.

DELEGATE CORN: When will this be by?

MISS ELLINGTON: Just a minute. It is anticipated that we will be able to make the assignment of a research assistant and clerical on an ongoing basis for the arrival of the staff and appropriate interns;in addition permanent room assignments and delivery of basic materials will also be completed. The target date is Friday, March 19th. Now not later than. That does mean that we can't move too fast, but we will do it. But I'm good but I'm not a magician. So we will do the best we can as quickly as we can.

To date we have made allocation of space, the allocation of already approved space, of organizing administrative procedures, time and attendance of the delegates and staff and request for services by delegates has been instituted and approved by the Executive Committee. We expect to have an organizational chart, job descriptions and a procedure manual completed no later than Wednesday, March 24th, and that's in writing. Tentatively, we will have it. We want to make sure that people will know the functions and services here; the functional chart can then -- a practical, useful and true functional chart will then be completed.

Delegates with access to reproduction facilities, appropriate pictures, displays and so forth that aid us to make the Convention Hall more visible and attractive, please contact me personally because we welcome, as you know, assistance.

THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Let me emphasize something now. I'm not hearing you too well since you are speaking that way but that's all right. I understand you to say we have an additional large room, the room on the west end now, 929?

MISS ELLINGTON: Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Does everybody know what that room is? It's a room almost the size of this room. It's big enough for us to put our secretaries in and the tables that they will assemble things on and so forth.

MISS ELLINGTON: And volunteers and interns.

THE CHAIRMAN: That's right. And volunteers and interns. We are getting some substantial offerings of people from Howard University's Law School and also from Howard University's Political Science Department. So we are hopeful -- and I suppose I shouldn't say much more about that because Bobby Austin will mention that. But that room is where we are going to take the bulk of the people who will be working at desks in a large area. That will free up some of the area around here so we can find some work space for delegates and a telephone, some work space for the officers and space for the public information officer, the historian, and our esteemed secretary.

I would like to remind everybody also that Vickie Street, who is our historian, has reminded us that everything that we do may have some historical value, so that there needs to be a way -- and I suppose you have that means of accepting from everybody anything significant that ought to be a part of our historical records that she can save.

Now we're moving to get a fireproof, lockable safe in which we can lock all records. We want to make a copy of everything that goes into that file so that when you want copies of things that have taken place, you make copies of things that are in regular files and have lost, we don't lose our original stuff.

We are going to provide tapes also, cassette tapes for recording of the minutes and, as suggested by Delegate Simmons some time ago, since there is always a possibility that a tape could get damaged or cannot reflect accurately what was recorded on it, we are making a second copy and that goes in the safe also of everything that takes place, every single meeting. It may seem insignificant and there's going to need to be some space but we have to acquire that.

We are also trying to get additional committee rooms along E Street. You know, you've got three committee rooms along there. There are now four. Somebody was meeting in the one with the counter today. There are four more committee rooms from that room right down to the end. The University of the District of Columbia we understand is using one and we are trying to get the rest of it, so that we have all of those rooms along the front for committee rooms and we will need a room for a public information officer.

So the only one that the University of the District of Columbia will be using hopefully will be one room at the end. We will have everything here except that one fairly large room at the end. We will have the big one. And that will give us the space for us to spread out with some telephones and some work space. Let me finish this before you respond.

I think she did say that we hope to have research assistance, which means that every committee will have some assistance. It doesn't mean every committee will have typing assistance. We are having our secretaries on a rotating basis from the Mayor's office. He gives us a secretary for 30 days and then he or she rotates and we don't always get the replacement. We've never had five full secretaries.

By the end of this week, we will know what we have on the way of volunteer service; we will know what we will have in the way of research assistance, law students who want to provide assistance, political science students. And we can decide out of that if we have any clerical assistance that we may use, all right, and any volunteers that we can have on some reliable scheduled basis. Then we will see what we have to do in the way of additional secretarial, clerical help. We will get as much as will come from the Mayor. It's always possible we will have to find it someplace else.

MRS. ELLINGTON: We also have on file letters from individual volunteers, in some instances experienced, retired people who are interested in volunteering their services and some of them are secretaries. So that's another avenue we are pursuing.

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes. Delegate Mason some time ago made solicitations of various places for various kinds of help and we have responses to those. And those are things we will look at once we have done all of our hiring and once we have to see what we have got in the way of volunteer help.

We are being very mindful of the fact that volunteer help is not always the most reliable as far as reporting, as far as accountability, but that is something that we have to crank in since our funds are limited. We're going to try to make sure that we do have it accountable.

Okay. Was there anything else that you wanted to clarify before I take questions?

MISS ELLINGTON: No.

THE CHAIRMAN: Why don't you conduct the inquiry period then?

DELEGATE MAGUIRE: I was just wondering what is the date in the contract in the District of Columbia for the use of the space?

MISS ELLINGTON: Supposedly, it is not firm. But I have an appointment with the person who was in charge of that Monday and I can tell you then firmly exactly what it is and whether or not they are mindful of the extension of time needed and are willing to go along with it. I will report that next week.

DELEGATE SIMMONS: I wanted to know if the duplication -- I understand you must have 48 hours in advance notice.

MISS ELLINGTON: If possible.

THE CHAIRMAN: Is that office procedure memo available for distribution?

MISS ELLINGTON: Somewhere.

THE CHAIRMAN: Do the people have that?

MISS ELLINGTON: I don't know.

THE CHAIRMAN: Maybe we better have a brief discussion about that. Now that we have an Executive Secretary and also a research coordinator, that office on occasion innocently has been deluged with demand for all of that service right now. Well, it's very difficult to have 45 people coming into the office and making demands for service. So Miss Ellington has established a structured procedure so that anything that you need just simply bring there and there is a form to fill out with all of the instructions and she has committed herself to get those things back to you in your box, if that's where you want it, or on her desk if that's where you want to get it from in due course. In due course means with all delivered speed.

But please let us respect that procedure and try to develop our needs as early as possible so that we don't have people asking her on five minutes' notice to produce 100 copies of something. Now please respect that procedure and please use the form. And I think the forms are up here on the desk. And that way I think we can avoid any kind of conflicts and remembering that she still only has two secretaries working for her. So she is doing a lot of that work herself and we want to provide some respect and dignity in that whole process.

MISS ELLINGTON: Miss Mason.

DELEGATE HILDA MASON: Thank you. Hilda Mason at large. I want to thank you for the work you've done since you have been here. We're very happy to have you here.

I wanted to ask: Did you have a chance to follow up yet with any of the law schools? They said that they had some law students. Mr. Gonzalez there said that he had some law students.

MISS ELLINGTON: Well, Mrs. Mason, I will be glad to meet with you and discuss with you and work it through the Executive Committee. Frankly, I have been since Tuesday morning, when I really started working -- I have been doing mostly manual labor and I have not -- I only made tentative appointments with people really trying to get the committee set up. My next step will be trying to allocate the services.

DELEGATE HILDA MASON: I do appreciate the time event under which you have been operating.

Let me ask you: Are we going to have files in the committee rooms and where will our mailboxes be, the individual--

MISS ELLINGTON: Our mailboxes at the moment are what we call the library, the ones with the nice shelves in there with their names on the shelves. We have someone who is just starting putting names there and we want to have an individual box for each delegate and a little basket or some sort or other for each committee, so that if something is directed to the chairperson as an individual, they will get it, but still if it's addressed as a committee, it will still be sent to the right place.

DELEGATE HILDA MASON: Does that mean the chairperson gets something that the committee members will also get a copy of, whatever was transmitted to them?

MISS ELLINGTON: It's up to the committee to let us know how many copies they want and to whom they want it transmitted.

DELEGATE HILDA MASON: I think I'm asking a precise question. If the President or the Executive Committee should transmit something to the chairperson, will the committee members get a copy of that transmittal?

MISS ELLINGTON: I think that's a decision that the chair people and the Executive Committee will decide.

THE CHAIRMAN: I have no problem with sharing any of our internal communications.

MISS ELLINGTON: My only problem is the demand of the rate. I have asked staff something and it has not been really treated very happily. I have been trying to introduce the good old carbon paper for some things because of the demand on that poor little machine. And so I am trying to cut back, but wherever it's indicated by the chairperson that they want a duplicate, we will of course have to do it.

DELEGATE HILDA MASON: Do you know if there is a word processing machine anywhere in this building or at Howard University or somewhere else, at any of the other university buildings where the committee chair people could make their work easier by not having to make, say, 15 copies of a letter, by putting it in a processor?

MISS ELLINGTON: We are trying to do that for the entire Convention so that each chairperson will have equal access and try to make it so that they can all have it done. We're working on that at this moment.

DELEGATE HILDA MASON: It strikes me at this minute that Council Member Spaulding has a lot of contact with companies dealing with word processing and computer science and all of that. If you would like me to ask him, I would be glad to ask him.

MISS ELLINGTON: I would be glad to discuss that with you any time and anyone else. As I said, I welcome all of this.

DELEGATE HILDA MASON: I have one common question. I don't know if you answered my question about files in the committee room. Will we have file cabinets?

MISS ELLINGTON: Locked file cabinets are scheduled to be for the use of each committee.

THE CHAIRMAN: Excuse me, a minute. It is our intention to have four locked file cabinets in each committee room and that's to enable each committee to have ten drawers, assuming that there are nine persons on each committee, so that each person has at least one drawer. We don't have that many, but we are going to try to get them from the University if they have any in this building which they are not using, or from the D.C. Government or on loan or buy them used. But we feel it's important that every committee have permanent locked files and that each delegate has at least one drawer.

Since two committees meet in each committee room, that means four file cabinets.

DELEGATE HILDA MASON: And that would be very helpful. Then I could stop lugging all this material I bring each time I come here.

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes. All of us are carrying file cabinets around in bags.

DELEGATE HILDA MASON: My last question is: Maybe you could recommend to the Executive Committee and maybe they would empower you to do that, to contact colleges and university business schools to see if they would have students who might want to come and help with the clerical.

MISS ELLINGTON: We have done that.

DELEGATE HILDA MASON: Thank you very much.

MISS ELLINGTON: Yes, Delegate Marcus.

DELEGATE MARCUS: Thank you, Miss Ellington.

I notice in your report that you mention that we have hired -- that the Executive Committee has hired nine research associates.

MISS ELLINGTON: With one pending.

DELEGATE MARCUS: With one pending. Thank you. That answered that question. I have a second question too.

When President Cassell was expanding on your report, he mentioned that there will be facilities for making second copies of tapes so that we can turn over copies that we made as individuals, right? Should we give those copies of tapes that we currently have and we would like copies of to you?

MISS ELLINGTON: At the moment, I would like that you hold them until we ask for them because of security reasons.

DELEGATE MARCUS: Thank you.

MISS ELLINGTON: Yes, sir.

DELEGATE LOVE: I just wanted to use the Xerox machines for something I am trying to prepare for Monday and I had to go through committee chairs and everything else. I would like to suggest that what you might want to do is talk about light jobs and small jobs. And I can understand why this morning for 50 copies or 30 pages or something like that, but many of us are working in small groups to do things which require ten pages of one page or something like that. And I would hope that we could do those relatively quickly and relatively efficiently.

I also would like to suggest that if we are going to have trouble with this machine, we really ought to get another machine, a big one; have two machines because later on things are going to be very complicated and it would be nice to have a copying machine.

[redacted]

MISS ELLINGTON: We have one machine in practice and looking at our budget and the other needs, I can certainly understand making your suggestion known to the right people and we will review it -- to the Executive Committee.

THE CHAIRMAN: We are going to try to get on loan a larger machine, a machine with a larger capacity and that collates at least 20. We're not going to buy it, but it seems to me that's the sort of thing that we ought to be able to get on loan or on lease if necessary.

DELEGATE TERRELL: Mrs. Ellington, I'm sure that everyone would agree that we are happy to have you and that you have done a lot in this past week in order to bring an order and structure to what we have to do as part of the process. My concern is with the library as I raised in the last plenary session. Is that the responsibility of yours? And if that is so, would you bring us up to date as far as the progress with the library?

MISS ELLINGTON: We have two things, as I said, a focus on the physical structure. A part of furnishing the library and reaching out for gratuitous gifts through the delegates wherever possible, through the government or wherever, the government offices wherever possible, but it's also a problem of security.

We have a number of delegates and a number of people who are going to demand the same things because they really, really need it. We want to be able to secure those things, and so what we have been trying to do is to put off those things that need absolute security until such time as we get other things set up and when we can move on.

We will, of course, acquire whatever the Executive Board requires us to purchase and now at the same time using some of these people that we are talking about coming into help us to determine through the research and have the research coordinator tell us exactly what we need to give the functional support that we need.

DELEGATE ROTHSCHILD: I think it would be advantageous to put a large monthly poster broken down so people could know in advance --

MISS ELLINGTON: Poster paper is on order and we want to thank Mr. Thomas for the pictures and things. That's one of the things that we have already ordered so that people can sort plan where they want to go and when. It also might, in some instances, notify other committees or persons that they might be interested in hearing the kind of work they are doing.

DELEGATE ROTHSCHILD: Right, yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: All right. If there are no further questions. We do have business to get on to. I hope that we have covered most of the things. If you have any other suggestions for Miss Ellington, please put them in writing. Give her a memo or come in and talk to you, one at a time hopefully. Right? Okay.

I would like to move the agenda. Delegate Corn.

DELEGATE CORN: Just one question: Will that poster include all daily events that are happening, you know, so that you will know, for instance, let's say on Monday that one committee meets from 12:00 to 3:00 and another committee meets, let's say, from 2:00 to 6:00 and another one meets from 4:00 to 7:00?

MISS ELLINGTON: It is my plan to meet with the chairperson of the Rules and Calendar Committee and have that Committee verify the authenticity of it so there is no overlapping unless it's planned overlapping before it goes on the board.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much.

An item that doesn't appear on the agenda and that is just by oversight and that is the report by our research coordinator, whom I think we will introduce to you for the first time. We haven't brought him on board as of the last meeting.

And our research coordinator is Dr. Bobby Austin. Dr. Austin.

DR. AUSTIN: Thank you, Mr. President.

First, may I say that I'm delighted to be with you and to be a part of this very historic undertaking that you are doing here in the District of Columbia. Part of my report has already, of course, been taken up by both the President and by Mrs. Ellington, but I would like to elaborate just briefly on some of the things that the research function for you will be taking place in the next week.

First, I'm delighted to report again to you that nine of the ten research assistants have been designated for the convention and they will be on board Monday. It is hoped that the tenth assistant will be -- we will interview him and talk with him and hopefully by Monday evening that person will also be on board and you will have at that point ten research assistants for the convention.

During the first part of next week, one research assistant will be assigned to each of the standing committees for the convention. Committees will be matched with both the educational and work experience of the assistants so that as far as possible we will attempt to match, say, if a person has some local government experience, we will try to put that person with that committee so he can be of service to you both substantively in the subject area that you are working with as well as his or her research skills.

We are fortunate also in the fact that the Howard University Political Science Department will supply us with 20 political science students. These students are juniors and seniors and I think we should take them very seriously. Sometimes you tend to think students don't work, but students work very hard when they are not bored. So I think that if we keep them working hard, they will be fantastic interns for this convention. We would have 20.

Now these young people will be receiving some type of academic credit through Howard University with of course our oversight; that is, the Executive Committee, Mrs. Ellington and myself. I would like to tell you that Dr. Jenkins who is the head of that intern program and I will be working during this first part of the week to schedule their hours so that I can present those to the committee chairs.

Well, this is what I plan to do with those 20 students. We have basically 30 bodies that will be on board during next week. We can assign to each of the standing committee three people. The people will be in these categories: a paid research assistant that we can hold totally accountable for research work that has to be done for the committee. There is an intern clerk. Now an intern clerk for a committee would do just what my friend and I are doing, passing out our own material; we will let the clerks help us do that so that delegates can concentrate more on the substantive work and issues that they have to do that each committee would be assigned, an intern clerk as well as an intern page.

So, therefore, you have three working bodies -- two volunteers, two are intern students getting credit and one paid person to be a research assistant. I think if we are able to use these people effectively, we will cut down on your workload and a sense of having to drag and pack everything back and forth because the clerk should be able to take all of your written material, that is, at least official section of that. He will keep that for you in the files. That person would, therefore, be the person you would go to find out where things are in regards to that committee -- file your material for you; have your material ready for you; pass it out, if necessary, at meetings, but they will act to assist you in every possible way.

I would also like to do the same thing for the officers and the operating committees because they need help desperately, particular Styling and Drafting Committee. So we are working to get someone to help them with that.

The last thing I want to bring to your attention is that the Howard University Law School is interested also in providing us with law students. We do not know at this point how many and what kind of hours they will have. By Wednesday we will know this and I will get this out to you probably in a memo so you will know how the law clerks will be used.

I have asked them -- and I have talked with Mrs. Ellington -- if we have any, I would like to have 13. That way again each committee would have an assistant law clerk to help them with their work.

This basically is where we are with the research coordination. Now if there are major research areas that you want looked at, please let me know so if I can't do it, at least I can point to places where it can be done for you. Basically that is my report.

DELEGATE LOVE: Are you planning some sort of introductory session since they would all come with various degrees of knowledge and understanding of research? It seems to be a training session for all of these people, telling them where to find things and how to find things; making agreements with various libraries throughout the cities would be very good, so that basically they have a fundamental knowledge with which to work.

DR. AUSTIN: The orientation is scheduled for 1:00 Monday.

DELEGATE LOVE: Are these graduate law students or undergraduates?

DR. AUSTIN: They will be juniors and seniors in the Political Science Department of Howard. One graduate student -- I neglected to say, one graduate student will be given and I want him because I want to help him to coordinate all of these 30 people. But they are juniors and seniors. If you know of other places, however, that would like to give us students, graduate students, please refer them to Mrs. Ellington and then I can work with it.

DELEGATE MARCUS: Mr. Austin, if you mentioned at the very end of your report that if we have research areas that need to be covered, we should let you know. Is there going to be a regular procedure for committees of letting you know if there is a major research question coming up?

DR. AUSTIN: Unless they come directly, it's really my job.

DELEGATE MARCUS: Come directly?

DR. AUSTIN: Yes.

DELEGATE MARCUS: Thank you.

DELEGATE SIMMONS: Yes, Dr. Austin, I was going to ask you if maybe it would be helpful for you to have maybe -- not orientating the research assistants but the committee chairs. I would appreciate your having a meeting with all chairpersons and at that time having complete clarity as to what we can expect and the services that would be available and you in turn will be dealing with the staff, so there can be absolute smoothness in communication and understanding of what the pending order is and how things are done effectively and efficiently.

DR. AUSTIN: A memo is on the press at this point for committee chairpersons so they will know exactly what a research assistant in this thing will do, what an intern page will do and what an intern clerk can do. Of course, you can expand on all of these and move them around, but that is being done. And I do appreciate the idea of having a meeting with the chairs. I think that is important too.

DELEGATE SIMMONS: I think that would be helpful.

DR. AUSTIN: All right.

DELEGATE TALMADGE MOORE: Dr. Austin, Talmadge Moore. I was concerned with the possibility of utilizing two or three students from the D.C. public school seniors as pages, whatever you want to use them for. I think this would be wonderful experience. I wanted to address this to the chair and to you, Dr. Austin.

DR. AUSTIN: For me right now I think it would be a little hectic. I think we are talking about some kind of educational program for the D.C. school system, because it is so historical and so important on how it affects their lives and it's a wonderful living history for them. We have not gotten that far in doing it yet but it is something that we are thinking about doing.

I saw two other hands. First, Hilda Mason.

DELEGATE HILDA MASON: First of all, I want to congratulate the Executive Committee for selecting Mr. Austin. I've known him for a long time; he is really good.

I wanted to emphasize that when memos go to chair people, even if we are not going to attend meetings, I would emphasize that we, all of the delegates, know what's going on.

Is there going to be any effort to involve students at the University of the District of Columbia also?

DR. AUSTIN: There should be, Mrs. Mason. I have not gone out of my way yet to do that because Dr. Jenkins from Howard called us.

DELEGATE HILDA MASON: Do you know why he called you?

He called you because I called him.

DR. AUSTIN: He called and said he was ready with his 20 students. I think this coming week as we get people assigned and I get the chairmen so that they don't look at me cross-eyed saying, "You're here. How come we don't have anybody?" I think that is something we should do. We should expand it also to American, George Washington, Georgetow They are a part of this city and they need to be a part of what is going on, and Catholic University.

DELEGATE HILDA MASON: Right. And Antioch is very excellent. I've had excellent interns from Antioch, from UDC, from Howard and I've had -- I'm not sure whether I've had any from Georgetown or American, but those whom I have received have been very good and I think that I'm emphasizing UDC because, you know -- all right.

Thank you very much and let me know if there is anything I can do to help you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Dr. Austin, let's just have one more question and then let's close.

DR. AUSTIN: Okay.

DELEGATE ROTHSCHILD: Is there a provision for some type of a generalist in the area of constitutions to be like a consultant or some way we could -- in other words, it's a good idea to have people who could do good research but at the same time it's a good idea for somebody to check that all these parts kind of come into place at the right time and in the right way. The convention itself never dealt with the overall aspect of the constitution. And I'm afraid with each getting into little parts, we don't get the overview.

DR. AUSTIN: I will see if the General Counsel could have one who could assume that role. The law students could help but I don't think they could give broad breadth of what a constitution is.

THE CHAIRMAN: Dr. Austin's responsibility is to coordinate the work of all of the people who are making the input and giving assistance to various committees. The General Counsel, together with the Executive sections and the committee chairs themselves and the officers will have to deal with the overall constitution. I think we will have to provide for ourselves generalist service with such counsel as we need. And I'll talk about the General Counsel shortly.

There was one -- Barbara Maguire was the person I thought you were going to call on. So let's --

DELEGATE MAGUIRE: I just wanted to thank you for the law clerks and I'm satisfied now that on Monday when I go to my committee meeting, we will have --

DR. AUSTIN: What time is your meeting?

DELEGATE MAGUIRE: Monday at 12:00 is my committee meeting.

DR. AUSTIN: I can look at your committee and I can find out --

DELEGATE MAGUIRE: Then the answer is no, that --

DR. AUSTIN: No. It's not no exactly. I will be there and I'm pretty good. And I will see if I can't find one of the students who is coming and see what kind of backgrounds they have. We have introduced some fabulous people who are out of work and they have very good skills, and I would like to find somebody who can come and help. We will have somebody there.

DELEGATE MAGUIRE: Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Dr. Austin.

Mr. Secretary, do you have a report.

DELEGATE COOPER: Yes. I would like to report to our convention that there have been no proposals submitted to the convention as of the last meeting of this convention.

THE CHAIRMAN: That is not to say that anybody is negligent. It's just that it's really in the game. Right? But that question does come up from time to time.

Okay. Next we will have the Treasurer's report.

DELEGATE JONES: One second.

DELEGATE SCHRAG: Mr. President, just a question on the last point: Is Mrs. Ellington the proper person with whom proposals should be filed if the delegate does have a proposal to file?

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes. Mrs. Ellington is the chief administrator officer. Dr. Austin reports to her and everybody else reports to him except for the clerical and administrative personnel.

DELEGATE SCHRAG: So the proposals should go to Mrs. Ellington?

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.

DELEGATE JONES: Good afternoon. I'm Theresa Howell Jones, delegate from Ward E and I think Treasurer of the convention.

I would like to start by thanking all the delegates for being cooperative and giving me their social security numbers. We have been able to -- we now have the information that we needed to prepare the time sheets and we will be able to bring closure to those today after this meeting and proceed with the procedures that you see before you, which says delegate time and attendance payroll procedure.

Now if there are any questions about this, I wish you would ask them now because this is the procedure for us to follow in order to get this thing done in a timely fashion. We still have not been able to establish the payroll --

DELEGATE CORN: I would like to ask you something about reimbursement. In my committee we have not been able to get tapes. We had to go out and buy tapes and we are going to have to buy more for today.

DELEGATE JONES: Would you hold that until I get to it?

DELEGATE CORN: Sure.

DELEGATE JONES: Are there any questions on this memorandum? I see somebody's hand up, Joe Garner.

DELEGATE GARNER: Delegate Jones, there was a question which you raised in a committee meeting concerning the time at which the slips are presented to you to the Executive Secretary. If the slips are not presented to you by the proper time, does that mean, one, that the payment for those days will be later or it will be not at all?

DELEGATE JONES: It doesn't mean that. I would like to say not at all because we have some chair people who are holding the attendance sheets. The only thing that you are doing is holding me up. The payment will be made hopefully at the time it's supposed to be made. If you hold the attendance sheet, you are holding me up. You are causing us to do more work.

DELEGATE GARNER: Thank you.

DELEGATE BLOUNT: I was just going to say a suggestion. I don't see any problem with turning in sheets at the end of your meeting. That's what I've been doing.

DELEGATE JONES: That's exactly what we are asking you to do.

DELEGATE HARRIS: Delegate Harris, Ward 4. It seems to me that this system should be operated in the same way in which a job is operated. And I think it's unfair to put the committee, the Treasurer or the Executive Secretary through any undue paperwork because of the fact that we don't get our material in on time. And it seems to me that if the chairperson does not turn those forms in on time, that that should come at the next pay period and not do any undue work to get it in between because I think it's unfair to the people who are doing it and it ought to be the responsibility of the chair.

DELEGATE JONES: Any other questions?

THE CHAIRMAN: Well, there has been -- excuse me. Delegate Harris has said what she thinks it should be. I think we better establish a policy now so that there is no argument. We understand that since it is possible if you are here to fill out those sheets, the chairperson certify them and turn them in, that as a matter of policy that is what is to be done. If you don't get them in then, then, you know, they wouldn't get paid until they do get turned in and that would be the next pay period, assuming they get turned in then.

So why don't we establish that.

DELEGATE JONES: We are establishing the policy -- I'm sorry, the procedure.

We are establishing this policy with this procedure sheet. Are there any other questions on this procedure sheet?

DELEGATE HARRIS: Has what the President said entered in as the proper procedure, that if the time sheets are not turned in, they go to the next pay period? Is that already on there?

DELEGATE JONES: No. It's not on there.

DELEGATE HARRIS: Should it not be indicated as part of the procedure?

DELEGATE JONES: No, because we're going to try to do it every two weeks.

You know, I'm not about coming to the chairperson saying where is your attendance sheet. I don't think we ought to make delegates suffer but I don't think that chair people ought to make the committee and delegates suffer either. I don't think -- you know, if it gets to be a problem, we will treat it at that point.

THE CHAIRMAN: Establish the policy, enforce the policy; it is policy.

DELEGATE SIMMONS: I don't have any problem with the policy that is being suggested, but I don't think we are operating on the assumption that people are not going to do it. I would like to see this operate on the assumption that chairs were elected; they obviously enjoy the respect of their committees. So I don't think that we ought to operate under the assumption that the chairs are going to be dilatory and deliberately create disadvantages for the members of their committee. That's just by way of comment to all this emphasis on how to punish people who don't do right. I have a problem with that tone and atmosphere.

What I really wanted to ask Madame Treasurer is: In the committees which meet on a regular basis -- and we generally have two of those per week -- there will be those instances when we are having special briefings or special hearings or special audiences. Do you want the attendance for those or is it just for us? Are people paid for those?

I would like to be clear. That question was raised in my committee and I could not answer it.

DELEGATE JONES: They are paid for five meetings, including the plenary session, a week. We should have a time and attendance sheet for every committee meeting, special meeting or any other kind of meeting that is held in the business of this convention.

Now Gloria is going to yell, but I saw Hilda and then I saw a hand back there and you will be next and then Mr. Robinson.

DELEGATE HILDA MASON: Thank you, Delegate Jones. Hilda Mason at large. I agree that we should keep an attendance for every meeting, whether it is in regard to paid or not. But my question is: Have you worked out as something for the record -- I know you've talked with me but I want it for the record -- for those who are not going to accept their pay?

DELEGATE JONES: I'm going to get to that further down.

DELEGATE NAHIKIAN: Delegate Jones, a total of five meetings per week, I assume that also includes subcommittees that may be meeting, as long as it doesn't go over five meetings a week including the plenary.

DELEGATE JONES: We haven't talked about subcommittee meetings. We talked about committee meetings and the plenary session. But we should have a kind of attendance sheet on the subcommittee meetings also.

And let me just say by way of explanation in my committee because we've got some diverse subject areas, we've had to break down some committees that are going to have to work between regular committee sessions. We should have a kind of attendance sheet and I will take that up with the Executive Committee.

DELEGATE CORN: Delegate Jones, I have a couple of questions. If they attend meetings for things like Calendar and Rules and Style and Drafting, that also counts as a meeting, doesn't it?

DELEGATE JONES: We should have a time and attendance for anything.

DELEGATE CORN: Then I want to bring up something. At the very first meeting that my committee held, we were not given one of the official things. I turned in something and believe it or not it was turned back to me yesterday with the minutes of my meeting and other papers from my meeting. It was never apparently turned in to you. And we turned it in today.

DELEGATE JONES: Did you sign it?

DELEGATE CORN: It was just on a piece of looseleaf paper. That's all we had to do it on.

DELEGATE JONES: If you don't sign it, we don't take it.

DELEGATE CORN: Okay.

One more question can I ask you briefly? Did you say you pay on a weekly basis or every other week?

DELEGATE JONES: I have not said that yet.

DELEGATE CORN: Okay. Well here is what I was going to say: Let's assume it's every two weeks.

DELEGATE JONES: Gloria, could you wait until I get to that subject? Is that too much to ask?

DELEGATE CORN: Well, I just wanted to ask you so then you might want to bring it up at that point.

DELEGATE JONES: I'm going to bring up that point but I haven't gotten to that yet.

DELEGATE CORN: Well you are anticipating my question. You don't know it. May I please --

DELEGATE JONES: If it's going to be on when the payday is going to be --

DELEGATE CORN: No, it isn't.

DELEGATE JONES: Go ahead, ask it.

DELEGATE CORN: Okay. If it's every other week that we get paid and that's when the records are turned in, and let's say one week we go to four meetings but the next week we go to seven meetings or six, does it average out to the five out each?

DELEGATE JONES: No, it doesn't.

Mr. Robinson is next.

DELEGATE ROBINSON: Delegate Robinson, Ward 5. Delegate Jones, there are situations that delegates find themselves in. For example, I'm a member of the Executive Branch Committee and because there are certain areas of concerns of the Executive Branch Committee that overlaps with the Judiciary Committee, I have been designated as a liaison person. So it means that I attend Judiciary meetings as well as Executive Branch meetings. How do I handle that? Do I sign the Judiciary --

DELEGATE JONES: I think that the liaison person ought to sign the time sheet. I think that if you are a liaison person,you sign the time sheet and write on it "liaison".

DELEGATE ROBINSON: Thank you.

DELEGATE BLOUNT: Just another suggestion, Delegate Jones. Why don't you give the full report and then have questions afterwards?

DELEGATE JONES: No, but I would like if anybody has any questions on this sheet because then I could make a motion.

DELEGATE BLOUNT: You keep getting questions and then you say well I'm going to get to that. That was my reason for suggesting that, give the full report.

DELEGATE JONES: Any other questions on this memorandum that you have in front of you?

(No response.)

DELEGATE JONES: Well then, I make a motion that we accept this memorandum as those procedures that we will follow on time and attendance payrolls.

DELEGATE PARAMORE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved and seconded that this memorandum be accepted as the time and attendance procedures. All in favor, signify by saying aye.

(A chorus of "ayes".)

THE CHAIRMAN: Those opposed?

(No response.)

THE CHAIRMAN: Abstain?

(No response.)

THE CHAIRMAN: Motion carried.

DELEGATE JONES: On Monday, March the 15th, which is the Ides of March -- and I hope we don't go through any of that -- we will bring to closure the budget procedure in a meeting with the budget people for the District and Mr. Croft who is representing the Mayor's office. We will be giving him the procedure. We will have copies for him. Well, we will give him the official time sheets. We will be giving all of that to him on Monday and bring it to closure and at that point we will be asking to establish what the payday is going to be.

The budget will be broken out according to what we agreed upon in the category of spending at our previous meeting.

The affidavits to be signed indicating whether or not you want the stipend or whether or not you don't want the stipend, whatever, we will have. I will be asking people some time Monday or Tuesday -- I will be catching everybody I can catch or calling you on the phone, the people I can't catch, asking if you would please come and sign that affidavit.

I will also be asking you some time Monday or Tuesday whether or not you will come and sign your time sheets. Now when I catch you, you know, in between meetings, in the hallways -- when I ask you these things, I will expect you to read the time sheet and sign it. And if you have some problems with it, hopefully you can tell me what the problems are. We can solve it.

Now I hate to do that this way the first time, but this is the first time and if we are going to work quickly, then I have to do this quickly. The next time I will have the sheets ready at a full session so people can sign it.

Now, you know, we're just starting out. I have no other way to do this other than to do it that way, not unless you have a suggestion, like you would like to drop past at a certain time and I leave the time sheets for you to look at and agree with me. I have no other way to do that.

DELEGATE CORN: How about leaving them in Miss Ellington's door or something?

DELEGATE JONES: No, ma'am, absolutely not. A time attendance sheet, absolutely not. I won't attest to anything with my signature like that.

And one other thing is that, you know, all of the discussions we have had about whether or not you are going to take this stipend and the time attendance sheets, even if you are not going to take the stipend, we still want the time and attendance sheet. And I bet you that out of the 45 delegates in here, 43 will ask me, "Where is my money?" No, I will say 42 because I didn't ask myself that.

(Laughter.)

DELEGATE BLOUNT: I wanted to ask: Is there a requirement or rule that each delegate has to sign the time sheet?

DELEGATE JONES: It's required because we are not only putting it together for you to get your stipend, but we are also putting it together for the historian on who was here.

DELEGATE BLOUNT: The reason I asked that question, I didn't know if it was a rule, you know, that you have to do that because it would seem to me that if a chairperson gave you an attendance report, then, you know, that would be sufficient because it's on the weekly report of who was present.

(Simultaneous discussion.)

THE CHAIRMAN: Please, one at a time now.

DELEGATE JONES: We need some checks and balances and chair people can make mistakes too. You know, hopefully they won't but they could.

Now are there any other questions about things that I just said, the affidavit, the time sheets?

(No response.)

DELEGATE JONES: Okay, payday. On Monday, hopefully, we will establish what the bi-weekly payday will be and we will try to do it as quickly as possible. I was hoping for Wednesday. I don't think Wednesday is really --

THE CHAIRMAN: I'm having some difficulty hearing myself and I'm right next to the speaker.

DELEGATE JONES: I was hopeful for Wednesday. I don't think Wednesday is realistic but we will decide and we will have the procedure together. And because we are closing it, we will know what it is, and we will try to do that as quickly as possible.

Now, Gloria Corn, you had a question?

DELEGATE CORN: Yes. In my committee, Style and Drafting, we needed tapes. We went out and people from the committee used their own money to buy the tapes. It was understood that they would be reimbursed. Now I don't know how to get them reimbursed. We didn't save the receipt for $6.00 worth of tapes. We need more tapes for today that we are going to have to buy out of pocket. How do we get reimbursed?

DELEGATE JONES: There is an impressed fund that is being set up; a procedure is being written for that impressed fund and also a custodian of that fund will be designated.

The Executive Director will have control of that.

In order to get reimbursed out of that impressed fund, you must have, one, a receipt. We will give you a small form to fill out and then you will get reimbursed.

DELEGATE CORN: Okay. In the meantime, for yesterday, they spent $6.00 and we threw out the receipt for tapes, but I will swear in front of the Supreme Court and there are witnesses that we spent that.

DELEGATE JONES: You might have to before I sign off on it. We need a receipt.

DELEGATE CORN: From here on in I will do it, but I didn't know that yesterday. I left a thing that we would get tapes.

DELEGATE JONES: We will get tapes when we have finished.

DELEGATE CORN: But I had thought we would have them for yesterday and then we didn't. So we had to lay out the money.

DELEGATE JONES: Gloria, $6.00 is not going to --

DELEGATE CORN: That's not the point. It's not my $6.00.

DELEGATE JONES: Just tell them to come sign a statement that they spent this $6.00. We will take it.

Did you understand what I said, Gloria, about the receipt?

DELEGATE CORN: Yes.

DELEGATE JONES: Last but not least committees needing things are to list those things that you need and the chairman should submit those things to the Executive Director -- the Executive Secretary, I'm sorry, so that these things may be purchased and you can have them by request from the office.

Do the people hear what I am saying? You should submit the list to the Executive Secretary so those things can be purchased and then you can request them and we will have --

THE CHAIRMAN: I'm sorry we were talking up here. Would you repeat that?

DELEGATE JONES: People who have needs, would you please list the needs, submit it to the Executive Secretary, and those needs -- those things will be purchased so we will have them.

I saw Barbara Maguire, Barbara Simmons and Sandra Johnson.

DELEGATE MAGUIRE: The organization that has been presented here today from staff supplies if really well thought out and put together, but I'm still not exactly sure what it means. I know that we are going to have assistance this week and I know that additional office supplies and space and Xeroxing are all being negotiated. But what that does not say to me is when Barbara Maguire is going to be able to get the stamps, the paper, the Xerox, the tapes, the paperclips, the envelopes, the files that she needs to do the work at this convention right now.

It's not meant as criticism; it's meant as I need to know where to put my energy. Now if my energy this week is going to be in finding outside resources so I can mail letters, so I can get the typing and the minutes done, so I can do those things, I need to know when those services are going to be delivered, and if they are going to be delivered. I'm not real sure that they are going to be delivered and really it is not criticism. I would like to know also because I am confused about the sheet that was given to the delegates about incoming services from the Mayor.

Now I would like to know was that something you were asking from the Mayor or was that something to be delivered by the Mayor? And if it was to be delivered by the Mayor, why hasn't the proper action been taken so that they are delivered?

Do you understand what I am saying? I have spent the past three weeks at this convention doing work that I shouldn't have to do because I am spending time running around town doing Xeroxing, trying to get stamps, doing what I shouldn't be doing and yet I don't have time to be reading the things --

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Maguire, we understand what your question is. You want to know when you are going to get the things that you need. Those are not questions to be directed to the Treasurer. What she is doing is setting up the procedure for payment of delegates and for the purchase of requests.

DELEGATE MAGUIRE: Because you --

THE CHAIRMAN: Let me finish. You made it very clear. I really understand what you are saying. What you need -- your question needs to be directed to the Executive Secretary. She is the individual who will implement those procedures. She is providing a process for payment, a process for purchasing. Correct?

Okay. Now I thought that she responded to those questions but you can direct them to her once Delegate Jones is finished with her Treasurer's report, and I will call on you again to respond to that question. This is not the time to --

DELEGATE MAGUIRE: It seems to me Delegate Jones is now setting up a procedure for those files to be --

THE CHAIRMAN: She does not know when anything is going to be -- she doesn't know when it's going to be ordered or when it's going to be delivered.

DELEGATE JONES: We just got the Executive Secretary. I cannot be unreasonable in how things are requested and things are done. I run around and read things on the bus and ride to work in a carpool and during lunch hour I run around to get things mailed and buy stamps and all of this kind of stuff and that's where I have to put my energies in finding other resources.

I get somebody else to type, you know. Somebody pays a secretary for me to do their work and I'm asking him to do something else and he does it. My problem is that I cannot be unreasonable because a week's time is not enough time for anybody to tell me when something is going to happen.

And the other part of all of this is that we have 45 delegates. Everybody wants something. Everybody is under hard times and I just cannot be unreasonable about going --

DELEGATE MAGUIRE: I'm not suggesting you be unreasonable. What I am suggesting is if I'm going to continue putting my energy into what I am doing or if I am going to be freed up from that. That's all I want to know.

DELEGATE JONES: Well, I would like to know if I'm going to be running people down and all of the other things that I have been putting my energy in, it's not unreasonable to ask other people to do the same thing.

(Simultaneous discussion.)

THE CHAIRMAN: We want to answer your questions, but she can't answer them. All right?

DELEGATE MAGUIRE: I hope somebody does.

DELEGATE JONES: Ms. Simmons.

DELEGATE SIMMONS: I just hope that now when we have staff that we will do this with maximum economy;for each committee to run out and buy tapes is ridiculous. Tapes certainly is a supply we are going to need. It can be bought in quantity at a unit cost that is considerably less and we ought to have quantity because there ought to be tapes that become a part of the archives. So to buy the cheapest tapes we can find does not serve well the long-run purposes.

So I would just hope that that will be part of the consideration.

THE CHAIRMAN: Sandra Johnson.

DELEGATE JOHNSON: The Suffrage Committee submitted to our Vice Chair Delegate Baldwin on March 4th our request, written request for the supplies that we need. Now I understand you to say that we need to submit that request.

DELEGATE JONES: She has got it.

DELEGATE JOHNSON: That's all I needed to know.

Also it seems to me, since we are talking about over work that you are building in for yourself an extra bit of work; seeing as how everyone has signed the attendance sheet, I'm just wondering if it's absolutely necessary to have two persons sign an attendance sheet.

DELEGATE JONES: Let us understand this: I don't bill anything anymore for Theresa Howell Jones that she does not want to do or feels necessary that has to be done. If I turn in a time attendance sheet and attest to it that you disagreed with, you would be the first one to jump on the floor and say something to me. Your signature says that you agree to that sheet. And that's the way that is going to be done.

Now I'm not being arbitrary but that's protection for you. Now if you don't want to sign the time attendance sheet and you want me to say this is correct for you, you put it in writing and I will do that too.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any further questions of the Treasurer's report?

DELEGATE JONES: I hate to be this way, but I can't help --

DELEGATE JOHNSON: I was just thinking you're doing something that is extra work for yourself.

DELEGATE BLOUNT: Suppose you don't reach a certain person, the person had already signed it and you don't reach that --

(Simultaneous discussion.)

DELEGATE TALMADGE MOORE: Point of order. Can we move on with the agenda please?

THE CHAIRMAN: Point of order.

DELEGATE TALMADGE MOORE: Point of order. Can we move on with the agenda please?

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes. Delegate Marcus, I think your points are understood, but I think she has given her rationale that she is willing to do the additional work.

DELEGATE MARCUS: Thank you very much for your report. I have one question. Are you planning to give a regular series of reports to the convention?

DELEGATE JONES: Yes, I am if I survive.

DELEGATE MARCUS: We certainly hope you survive.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Ms. Jones. Thank you very much. I want to commend you on the depth and breadth, the scope and the quality of your work and report.

Okay. Next we have the standing committee reports. Delegate Baldwin is absent today because he has business in another part of the country in relation to a death in his family. He will not be here today. The standing committee reports made by the second Vice President and those committees that she has oversight responsibility for will be next.

Delegate Harris.

DELEGATE HARRIS: Thank you.

There are a couple of general announcements I would like to make for the six committees that I have responsibility for and those are the Executive Committee, Legislative, Economic Development, Local Government and Inter-Government Relations, Education and Style and Drafting which is the last of the six committees to be dispensed Friday. And I am hoping that very soon I will have a full copy of the minutes of Style and Drafting as part of the record.

I received minutes from all of the other committees except Economic Development. Mr. Croft, I think he left the committee. And so I am hoping I will get -- do you have those minutes?

DELEGATE BARNES: Yes.

DELEGATE HARRIS: Okay. Mr. Barnes says he has those.

It's important that the committees turn in their minutes to the office to be put on file, and I have tried to attend most of the committee meetings. In your reports I would certainly like the other delegates to know your intentions for hearings and for other special speakers to come. I want to remind that it was brought to my attention this past week that when the committees are having speakers in that they should give the proper notice as indicated in the rules to the office so that other delegates would know what speakers will be coming and when they will be speaking for the benefit of all others.

In order to expedite and coorindate the committee correspondence, especially my committees, I would like to suggest that official letter from committee chairs to outside persons to come and speak or whoever services you may solicit that those correspondences be submitted in draft to Mrs. Ellington in the office so that they could be put on official letterhead to go outside of the convention.

It is important, I think, that they be on official letterhead; some have been going out just on plain white paper, and I think it will show official letterhead. If you have seen this, it does indicate our address and the seal of this convention which is official.

At this time, I would like to call on Mrs. Simmons, the chair of the Executive Committee. She has reports from her week's activities followed by Delegate Terrell.

DELEGATE HILDA MASON: May I ask a question before?

DELEGATE HARRIS: Yes.

DELEGATE HILDA MASON: Hilda Mason at large.

Is there any problem with having the chair people or the delegates if they send us something under the direction of the chair person of the committee, typing the work and getting it on the proper letterhead and not sending the draft to the Executive Secretary?

DELEGATE HARRIS: Well, in our discussion I found that -- I have seen three different letters of the convention to outside persons. They have gone on plain letterlead; they have gone on no letterhead. They've had various addresses on them and there have been a few mistakes on them. And I don't know how we want the outside world to perceive us as writers of the constitution, but certainly those letters should be letter perfect. They should be on official letterhead with this official address on them and not home addresses on them. And I think they will be coordinated in that way.

DELEGATE HILDA MASON: My question was if the letter goes out under the direction of the chairperson on the letterhead and if the people are willing to type the letter drafted by the chairperson out on the official letterhead, is there any problem with that?

Why don't you think about it?

DELEGATE HARRIS: I'm not sure of the office coordination of everybody having their own letterhead.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Mason and Delegate Simmons.

DELEGATE SIMMONS: I would like to speak to the inquiry that Delegate Mason makes. It is a very interesting discussion and I certainly have appreciation for the fact it ought to be letter perfect. It's esoteric, however, for one aspect in my committee because we have sent 50 letters out and we came to this body and we asked for the official letterhead and we did edit it and it was letter perfect and it did go.

I'll tell you what I do have a problem about though. I have a problem with knowing that we don't have very much letter -- very much stationery and the secretaries let me know; you know, you hope you don't make any mistakes because here are 53 sheets for 50 letters. And I don't think we can do business without having ample supplies. I think we ought to have some more stationery obviously.

DELEGATE HARRIS: Well now, Delegate Simmons, your committee might have put it on official letterhead, but there are other committees that are not doing that and maybe you can coordinate that through the office and get the proper letterhead so that the letters can go out.

DELEGATE SIMMONS: We really don't have enough. I understand you only bought 500 sheets -- I mean 1,000 sheets and 500 envelopes. But I would hate to think -- let me just make a statement for the record because I would want it very clear. I have a great deal of respect for the staff, but I think that the general delegates are not ignorant people and I don't think any of them would want their material in any other way.

(Applause.)

DELEGATE SIMMONS: All I am saying is that I believe that any chair whose signature goes on a letter has enough personal pride and professional concern to see that it is done right. Now if you know of instances where that is not so, I think if you have the resources available, fine, and I think it ought to be, but I don't think that we have got to wait. Our letters couldn't have gone out last week if I had been waiting for, you know, some ritual.

DELEGATE HARRIS: It had nothing to do with ignorance; it had to do with procedure and the procedure has not been followed and has not been --

THE CHAIRMAN: All right. Yes. I think we've had an expression of opinion from the Vice Chair. We've had a response from Ms. Mason; we've had a response from Delegate Simmons.

It seems to me that what we need -- you recall that prior to the beginning of the convention when we were going through our pre-convention training, in an effort to be helpful many delegates were trying to bring into the convention as many resources as possible and many delegates were writing letters to a variety of people. Those responses came in and we had to eventually collect them and collate them. We are now organized. We do have a central administrative officer. We do have stationery. There has to be some way of coordinating. I don't think we want to restrict committee chair people who are industrious and resourceful and trying to get information in.

But at the same time we do need a certain consistency and it would be well that, since we are providing administrative services which include secretaries and typists, that everything that goes out of this convention goes out in some coordinated fashion. If we are providing the necessary secretarial help, then we have to find it. If you need to write a letter or to receive a letter, that's the responsibility of this office.

I would hope that nothing goes out of this convention on convention letterhead or with the name of any convention delegate that does not go through that office and that we don't have a copy of, so that we know what is going out in our name. And I think that's the only problem. I think that's what Delegate Harris is saying.

I would assume also that we are all reasonably literate. I am a literate person myself but I make mistakes from time to time. I have either my secretary or somebody else check those. If you would want anything that you send out reviewed, I'm certain the Executive Secretary would provide for that. But I would hope that nothing ever goes out on our letterhead or with anyone of your names that doesn't go through that office and get recorded and that there is a copy of so that people know what is going out in the name of the convention.

Okay, do you want to go on?

DELEGATE SIMMONS: I would just like to suggest that the letters that we sent out there are copies and a list of persons to whom they were sent.

The Executive Branch Committee met Monday at noon on the 8th of March and Wednesday, the 10th, at 4:00 p.m.

What I would like to report is that the -- our committee had been fortunate enough to secure some services from Sidley and Austin and we will be working on a regular basis with those resource persons as to the powers of the Executive Branch.

We accepted a schedule for a meeting and I might note that we meet every Monday at noon and we meet every Wednesday at 4:00 p.m. So anyone who is interested may feel free to attend our meetings whenever time permits. We are expecting to receive -- the 50 letters I referred to were letters to the Governors of the various states and we were sharing with them our interest and this historical event. We think it's terribly important that we not reinvent the wheel. So those powers which have been effective for good governors, we have asked them to emphasize powers they feel they cannot have; that would make their position more effective, we have asked them to share with us, because theirs would be from a practical standpoint.

All of this is geared toward the hearings which we are going to have on April 5th. In the interim any governor who is visiting the city who lets us know in advance so that we can communicate with members of the committee we will have a personal meeting with that person. So we're after information and we are keeping our record on time. What is important is the extent to which we can maximize our information. We know that it will be short notice in some instances, so we will tape each interview with each executive so that any member of the committee who is not able to attend can hear that interview and the discussion at his or her own leisure time.

I have only one question to ask our Vice President who visited our committee meeting on Monday, the 8th of March, and did indicate to us that she wanted us to put in writing those items that we needed, you know, so that you have that assessment of what the needs of committees are. We did that on Tuesday, signed it, typed it and gave it to her. We would be interested in knowing now from the standpoint of procedure, Madame Vice President, if you will assume responsibility for that piece of paper that you had us do, or if we now are, you know, to send it some place else? Can we assume that because you have had it since Tuesday that those materials or supplies we will either get or you will notify us as to when and where and how. We didn't have them for Wednesday and we thought that wasn't likely but we haven't heard yet what's to happen with that piece of paper and we would need that information.

DELEGATE HARRIS: Mrs. Simmons, who was it given to?

DELEGATE SIMMONS: To the Vice President's box.

DELEGATE HARRIS: I didn't see it when I came in.

DELEGATE SIMMONS: I made a special trip over here and signed it myself.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegates Simmons and Harris, I think this is another one of those things in which we can trust each other. I mean if you haven't gotten it, then we ought to just need to speak to the Executive Secretary who can expedite those matters.

(Simultaneous discussion.)

DELEGATE SIMMONS: I ask you: Is the procedure the same?

DELEGATE HARRIS: The procedure is the same.

DELEGATE SIMMONS: I presume you will take care of that. That's what I want to know.

THE CHAIRMAN: Let me say for everybody's benefit now the procedure regarding committee needs, since there are oversight vice presidents, first and second, is to give your needs to them and let them give them to the Executive Secretary. They are then in a position to coordinate that provision. And if something falls through the cracks, speak to the -- but it's not something for public discussion, I don't think.

The procedure has not changed.

DELEGATE SIMMONS: All right, thank you.

Any members of the Executive Branch who have additions to the report, I would be very happy to afford you time to do that at this time.

(No response.)

DELEGATE SIMMONS: All right. Hearing none, I would say, Mr. President, that concludes the report of the Executive Branch.

DELEGATE HARRIS: Thank you very much.

Delegate Terrell, Legislature.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Terrell, can I interrupt and make an observation before you begin. Delegate Simmons has announced a hearing. I hope everybody got that. The hearing is on April the 5th. Is that here or -- okay.

If you will recall, we did have a schedule here, and that schedule is tentatively adopted until such as revised and we had tentatively -- and if we changed it, we would need another block of time -- had the period from April the 11th to April the 15th for hearings -- I beg your pardon -- a one-week period for hearings for all committees, assuming that if we have a block of time so that everyday you would have a hearing, the public attention would be focused on the fact that the convention is having hearings Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday. Unless the Rules Committee wants to revise that, I would remind everybody in setting your hearing times to try to keep your hearings within that particular time frame. It may give more attention than if they were, you know, more and more scattered. But I would like for everybody to remember that there is a hearing of the Executive Committee April the 5th in this room.

DELEGATE HILDA MASON: At what time?

DELEGATE SIMMONS: 9:30 to 5:30.

THE CHAIRMAN: And it might be well that all committee chairpersons coordinate their projected hearing dates so that they are in a particular block of time.

DELEGATE CORN: Point of order.

May I suggest that even as chair people call out the times of their hearings that they be listed right there on the blackboard so that there is no confusion. I would appreciate that.

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes. Any chairperson who is willing to so record it, go right ahead.

Delegate Terrell.

DELEGATE TERRELL: Thank you.

This is the report of the Committee on Legislature for the period March 6th through March 13th. During March 8, 1982 meeting which took place at 6:30 here, we agreed that Delegate Theresa Howell Jones would serve as a liaison person from the committee to the Suffrage Committee. We also agreed that Delegate Jerry Warren would serve as the liaison to the Executive Committee. We set March 15th as the final due date for committee reports on the legislative process. We also agreed to continue investigating the sharing of information of various legislative sections of state constitutions and that we continue discussions and data collection.

On March 10th, 1982 meeting we heard a presentation and asked some questions of Delegate Nathaniel Exon (Phonetic) from the Maryland House of Delegates. He gave us a very excellent presentation from the vantage point of the City's great legislature.

Dr. Robert Martin from the Department of Political Science of Howard University also gave us a very excellent presentation on state governments as compared to national government in terms of legislature, the size of legislature and terms and committee structures and of course the question of bicameral and unicameral legislature structure.

And further then he agreed to give a debate on the question of the bicameral legislature versus the unicameral legislature on Monday, March 15, at 6:30 p.m. during the committee meeting. So we are urging all delegates to come out if you have time to come out to participate in the debate. It will begin at 6:30 on Monday --

DELEGATE CORN: This Monday?

DELEGATE TERRELL: This Monday, March 15th, at 6:30.

DELEGATE CORN: May I ask, Chairperson Terrell, if delegates who are not part of that committee do come, will they be allowed to ask questions and to make a presentation of their own?

DELEGATE TERRELL: We will, of course -- you know, we are pleased and happy to have as many delegates come out as possible and because of the time constraint you're going to have to limit presentation.

DELEGATE CORN: Will you allow us to speak for a few minutes?

DELEGATE TERRELL: Certainly.

DELEGATE CORN: Thank you very much.

DELEGATE BARNES: (Inaudible) you would make the final decision of what kind -- whether you have two houses or one.

DELEGATE TERRELL: We can't say a final decision will be made but we will begin the debate discussion on that Monday's meeting.

DELEGATE BARNES: Okay.

DELEGATE TERRELL: Also to continue, we also agreed to hear Johnny Barnes who is a legislative assistant to Congressman Fantroy also on Monday and we agree that Delegate Love will schedule additional resource sessions outside of the regular committee meetings and keep the convention informed through the resource chairperson, Delegate Long.

There are a few other points that are also important. We have not as yet set our hearing date. So we will give you that information as far as the tentative date on Monday, after our meeting.

Delegate Love has scheduled two additional meetings for this week; one is set for Monday at 2:00 p.m. -- that's the 15th at the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations at 1111 20th Street, N.W., Suite 2000, and that's at 2:00 p.m. on Monday. And then on Tuesday at 10:00 a.m.

there is a session with Dr. Vincent Brown with the Department of Political Science at Howard University. That's in Douglas Hall, Room 112.

Now we are utilizing as far as the Legislature Committee is concerned a committee process and say if you need further information on what work the committee is engaged in and what we are planning and so forth, feel free to contact any member of that committee, myself or I'm sure you all know the chairman of that committee. Please feel free to (inaudible).

Delegate Jordan.

DELEGATE JORDAN: Just to clarify: Did I understand you to say that your committee will be having hearings, briefing sessions outside of the constitutional convention hall?

DELEGATE TERRELL: Yes.

DELEGATE JORDAN: I thought that we had taken a vote earlier that said that -- and it said our rules -- to have them identified.

In Section 2.5(b) it says "committee meetings shall take place only at the official public place of business of or designated by the convention". And, Mr. Chairman, I'm just raising the point because if that's coming under the definition of a meeting, then it would require the action of this body to authorize the meeting outside of the official --

DELEGATE TERRELL: Thank you for bringing that to our attention. This is not a regular meeting of the committee. This is just a chance for those persons who are interested in discussing the matter further to get together with resource persons outside of the committee. It's not a regular committee meeting.

DELEGATE SIMMONS: I don't think that's the issue. If you are sponsoring -- and it's under your aegis -- it doesn't matter what kind of meeting it is. Generally, that was precisely why we were trying to say are you going to have roundtable briefings, et cetera. We would all like to know when they are. And I appreciate your announcing that but I also think that if it's under the aegis, if you made the contact, therefore it's for the benefit of and information of people in the legislative branch that you have to pursue it. I think it's simple. I don't think it's a difficult matter. I think you ought to just ask the body for permission to hold it or move it.

(Simultaneous discussion.)

DELEGATE TERRELL: I move that the convention give us their approval to have these additional resource sections outside of the convention; that's the one for --

DELEGATE PARAMORE: I second your motion.

DELEGATE TERRELL: The dates are Monday, March 15th at 2:00 p.m. and Tuesday, March 16th at 10:00 a.m.

THE CHAIRMAN: Where in that building?

DELEGATE TERRELL: Room 112. The other one Monday, March 15th, at 2:00 p.m. at the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations. And that's at 1111 20th Street, N.W. Suite 2000.

THE CHAIRMAN: Why are you having these locations?

DELEGATE TERRELL: Apparently it's easier for those persons who are going to be giving this information for us to come to them rather than for them to make a trip here.

THE CHAIRMAN: All right. It has been moved and seconded that those two committee hearings -- are these hearings or meetings?

DELEGATE TERRELL: These are roundtable discussions.

THE CHAIRMAN: Roundtable discussions be held at Douglas Hall at 1111 20th Street,(sic).

Was there a second to that?

DELEGATE TERRELL: Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Discussion?

Brian Moore.

DELEGATE MOORE: Was there any effort made to invite speakers here?

DELEGATE TERRELL: Because of their time conflict, not everyone could fit within our 6:30 meeting time.

Let me let Delegate Love speak to that.

DELEGATE LOVE: I think there is some confusion about this. These are two meetings that I set up and talked with people who might be able to help our committee in terms of resources. This is not a formal committee meeting. We're not taking minutes. We just want to find out if these people have disagreed to the articles they would suggest, and the reason I am announcing it is I have already talked with Mr. Coast (Phonetic) from another committee who suggests he might want to send a couple of people there because the ACIR has some expertise. We are just going out to explore talking with other people if they can help us. I'm sure everybody in this committee has done this. The only difference is we announce this meeting because we felt some of the groups might be interested. These are not going to be big meetings and if you have somebody in your committee who wants to come, you better let me know ahead of time. These are not hearings; they are not roundtables; they are not formal committee meetings at all. They are just talks.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Robinson.

Delegate Barnes.

DELEGATE BARNES: I recognize that we all need to follow formal procedures here but generally we agree that -- we approve that we have these meetings outside the convention. I would like to move the previous question.

DELEGATE JOHNSON: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: All that are -- previous question.

DELEGATE COOPER: Two have not spoken against the motion or two for the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN: Your point is well taken.

DELEGATE COOPER: I would like to advise the convention, first of all, that in Delegate Terrell's motion he did ask for permission for the committee to meet, which means if we pass this motion it is an official committee meeting of the convention.

Now in keeping with rules -- with duties of the Secretary of this Convention, it is my duty, to supervise the issuance to delegates and the public of convention and committee meeting notices in accordance with the rules. This cannot be done in accordance with the rules because the first meeting proposed is less than 48 hours from this time now. Therefore, if we approve this, we will be in violation of the rules that govern this convention. That's all I am saying. I want to make the delegates aware that if we vote this up, we are voting to violate the rules.

THE CHAIRMAN: Another against? Another against?

DELEGATE ROBINSON: You have given me permission.

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, but it has been called to my attention that we do have to have that kind of balance.

DELEGATE CORN: Point of information.

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.

DELEGATE CORN: I'm not sure -- and I'm not a parliamentarian -- is it possible in this one instance to suspend the rules, therefore not violate the rules?

THE CHAIRMAN: Suspend rules. You can suspend the rules any time but there is a statement for that. Any others against?

DELEGATE CORN: Can we go through that procedure?

THE CHAIRMAN: Against?

DELEGATE GRAHAM: I think if you just withdraw that motion and go ahead and do what you want to do. Now I went to a classroom last night and talked to some students about it and I didn't get your permission because I thought it was my responsibility to do so. And I thought that any time you want to talk with a few people about what's going on, trying to get their ideas about it, I thought you could do that. I didn't consider it obedient; I considered it responsibility. I have done that with some neighbors, considering it a responsibility.

I would suggest that we withdraw that motion and if it's that -- the kind of thing that he is talking about, no roundtable and no -- let's go ahead and do it, unless the convention says we must keep our mouths shut and not discuss this unless we come here and get permission.

THE CHAIRMAN: There has been a -- okay.

DELEGATE SIMMONS: Point of --

THE CHAIRMAN: Hold on. The speaker would like to confirm before he responds.

Point of information.

(Simultaneous discussion.)

THE CHAIRMAN: I think he is right. Point of order takes precedence over -- yes, sir. I apologize, Delegate Blount.

DELEGATE BLOUNT: The point of order is that I believe if you sort of rule on requests. You see, she made a request to the chair, you know, that we could solve this dilemma by the motion being withdrawn and going on with this informal gathering. I'm asking the Chair to rule on her request

THE CHAIRMAN: I think he is trying to make a point of request, but the request was made of the speaker, of the person who made the motion. I understand the point of -- are you willing to withdraw your motion?

DELEGATE TERRELL: I'm about to take it to a vote.

THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. The speaker is not willing to withdraw the motion. We have had two for and two against. The question has been called; the question has been called.

Those in favor of the motion stated by --

DELEGATE SCHRAG: Point of inquiry.

THE CHAIRMAN: I'm sorry.

DELEGATE SCHRAG: Point of parliamentary inquiry.

THE CHAIRMAN: Go ahead.

DELEGATE SCHRAG: I think the body can only vote on this motion if it knows the answer to Delegate Graham's question and that is whether under the rules this is the -- the proposed meeting is a meeting of a committee and therefore requires this permission, or whether, as Delegate Graham suggested, it's merely an inquiry of outside persons for information and not a meeting of the committee, not require a quorum, not requiring minutes and therefore does not need the permission of this body.

So my problem with the inquiry is: Is this a meeting?

THE CHAIRMAN: The answer to your parliamentary inquiry is that I asked him if he would withdraw his motion, right?

DELEGATE SCHRAG: But my parliamentary inquiry --

THE CHAIRMAN: She had some reasons why she thought that he might but the answer to your question is that she asked him to withdraw and he refused to withdraw and he wants to put it before the body.

DELEGATE SIMMONS: Point of clarification.

When these rules were drafted, that particular section was clearly stated for the purpose of not having meetings held in secret, where folks didn't know where they were meeting and so that other people, the general public, could not be a part of it. It was not to obstruct the work of committees and if indeed this is a member or two or three going and investigating resources, I don't see that they should have to get permission or that it should take body action.

There sounds to me as though there is no formal discussion and no minutes to be taken and it, therefore, should be exempt from this particular aspect of our rules.

THE CHAIRMAN: Let me respond to that point of clarification. I heard the maker of the motion say that he wanted to have a roundtable discussion which he was calling.

That to me sounds like an official meeting to take care of business of this convention. And that would seem to fall within the realm of that particular motion. Now if he would like to change that, change first of all the words in the motion and also change the purpose and the nature of the meeting, then you could withdraw that and you would certainly have an opportunity to meet with, you know --

DELEGATE TERRELL: Mr. President, if I may speak again. The point is to simply give members of the committee and the convention in toto an opportunity to hear from the additional resource persons as far as those persons speaking to whatever entrance we have as far as this committee, as far as the convention is concerned. It is not a formal meeting of the committee. It is simply an opportunity for a few persons to get together with resource people to discuss and ask questions and so forth.

So consequently, I would like to withdraw my motion.

THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Just for information which doesn't fall within the rules of a formal meeting. Very good.

Now do you want to make your announcement again so that people know --

(Simultaneous discussion.)

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Terrell.

DELEGATE TERRELL: The information seeking session -- the first one will be held Monday, March 15th at 2:00 p.m. at the Advisory Commission on Intergovenmental Relations at 1111 20th Street, N.W., Suite 2000; the second session will be held Tuesday, March 16th, 10;00 a.m. at the Department of Political Science, Douglas Hall, Room 112, and the speaker -- not speaker, the person who will be responsible for giving us that information is Dr. Vincent Brown.

DELEGATE CORN: Would you please be able to post these in the hallway?

DELEGATE TERRELL: Certainly.

DELEGATE CORN: Thank you, sir.

THE CHAIRMAN: Everyone is invited to this information gathering session.

(Simultaneous discussion.)

DELEGATE COOPER: It will not be posted.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Secretary, I don't think we can say that.

Delegate Terrell -- (simultaneous discussion) -- the Chair takes the floor for himself. Delegate Terrell, no commitments will be made in the name of the convention,